

# Maryland Community Fellows Program Creating Assets, Savings and Hope

## **Program Description**

The Maryland Community Fellows program is a partnership between the <u>CASH Campaign of Maryland</u>, the <u>Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development</u>, and various Community Action Agencies (CAAs) statewide. Fellows primarily focus on free tax preparation, outreach and marketing about the Earned Income Tax Credit, financial education, and individual case management, where applicable.

#### **General Job Duties**

- Become an expert on the <u>Volunteer Income</u>
   <u>Tax Assistance</u> (VITA) program, tax laws, tax
   credits (<u>Earned Income Tax Credit</u>), and
   financial capability programs and products.
- Work with the placement site to implement a VITA free tax site during tax season.
- Certify at the IRS Advanced level and as a VITA Site Manager, if required by the site.
- Support volunteer recruitment and assist with administration of VITA program.
- Greet tax customers and assist them in understanding and completing forms, applications and other documents required for VITA, or to access financial capability resources and services.
- Screen customers for eligibility of services and provide tax preparation.
- Support implementation of tax time financial capability programs and services at the site.
- Provide financial education through workshops and individual appointments, where applicable.
- Attend professional development training webinars and respond to writing prompts.

#### **Skills or Attributes Needed**

- Part-time or full-time junior and senior students currently enrolled in an accredited four year institution; Graduate students are strongly preferred.
- Excellent telephone skills and computer proficiency (Microsoft Office suite, Google suite, Slack, etc.).
- Superior customer service skills.
- Must excel in a team setting and exhibit strong interpersonal skills.
- Must be able to work independently and complete tasks with minimal supervision.
- Attentive to details and comfortable working on multiple projects simultaneously.
- Prompt communication with program supervisor and site staff.
- Ability to work 3 days a week at site location, totaling 20 hours/week.
- Timely submission of timesheets, mileage logs, monthly and quarterly evaluations, schedules, writing assignments, and more, when requested by program staff.

### **Payment and Training**

Pending funding, Fellows will receive a stipend of \$5,400 (\$18/hour) for the duration of the Fellowship, paid bi-weekly. Paid training on tax preparation and financial education will be provided at no cost to the Fellows.

#### **Site Locations**

Currently recruiting for placements in Allegany, Montgomery, and Wicomico\* counties, and the Baltimore City Metro Area.

<sup>\*</sup>Wicomico county placement may include work in Worcester and Somerset counties.

**Eligibility:** A candidate must be **<u>currently</u>** enrolled in a degree program as a graduate student; or an undergraduate junior or senior for at least one semester during the program year.

Timeframe & Schedule: Fellowship begins January 2022 and ends May 2023.

Fellows are expected to complete a maximum of 300 hours in the Spring semester. Fellows are expected to work 3 days a week at their site location, totaling 20 hours/week.

**Application Procedure:** In order to be considered for the Fellowship, candidates must submit this CASH Campaign supplement at the end of this document, as well as the following via Handshake:

- 1. Resume
- 2. Cover letter
- **3. Most recent academic transcript** (either official or unofficial)

Completed application packages must be received by Friday, December 23, 2022.

Questions?: Please email or call Megan.

Megan Bautista

Program Manager for Tax Partnerships

CASH Campaign of Maryland

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Phone: (443) 692-9423 Megan@cashmd.org



# MARYLAND COMMUNITY FELLOWS PROGRAM Spring 2023 APPLICATION

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